

Tuesday Morning, Aug. 22, 1865.

The Moral of King Cotton.

We give place in the *Phoenix*, of this day, to an essay, by an intelligent correspondent, to some of whose opinions we must enter a passing protest. It is well that he should teach from the text "*Nil desperandum*"—perfectly proper that we should all encourage a cheerful resignation to the inevitable on the part of our people. Despair is a cowardly sort of refuge from misfortune—a sort of moral suicide, which disgraces manhood. Our correspondent wisely counsels against such equal cowardice and folly. And he is right in counselling a prompt alteration in our home policy and economy as a people. We have already urged repeatedly upon our readers the substitution of the farming or thorough tillage policy for the more slovenly staple culture—the slovenliness being due equally to the use of negro labor and the carelessness of the planter. We counselled, besides, the diversification of our industry, urging the introduction, wherever possible or politic, of manufactures, mechanics, and, indeed, all the arts. We are not prepared, however, to endorse the glowing prophecy of our correspondent with regard to our magical progress to a rapid, grand and prosperous future in Carolina, or the South anywhere. We would encourage no delusions which might mislead the hopes, or conduct to extravagant expectations. Better teach that we have to struggle forward slowly and painfully, walking for a season in the paths of trouble and adversity, accompanied by humility alone; for such, we take it, was the design of God when he suffered us to be subdued to our present prostrate condition. Now, assuming this to be the design of God, the producing a moral reform among our people which is vitally necessary, it seems strangely absurd to fasten upon cotton and negro slavery the offence which lies in our popular morals. In regard to negro slavery, we know that it has been the common allegation of our enemies that this was our great curse. It comes with a bad grace from those who sold us the negro, pocketed the money, and then tore their own signature from the bill of sale. We shall say something hereafter on this head, satisfied, as we are, that a few years will suffice to relieve us, in European opinion, from all the present odium in this respect. Cotton and negro slavery, however, are described by our correspondent as our tyrannies, the evil geni which despotically ruled us to our ruin. This can only be meant to signify that we have been tyrannized over by our wealth—wealth being assumed by the pious as the great corrupter of human hearts. In this sense, we need say nothing. Cotton was gold—was money—and its possession, like any other treasure, was perverted from an use into an abuse. We mocked God in the possession of wealth, and said in our hearts, "There is no God." We might write a thousand homilies on this subject, yet would fail to persuade any people that they should not seek the acquisition of wealth, which would be as evil in its effects, by-the-way, whether acquired through cotton, or stocks, or trade, or labor of any sort, or through any other material. But it is a strange misuse of thought and language to find that mischief in the material, cotton, which lies only in our minds and morals. What! Cotton! That beneficial agency, given us by God himself—clothing the nations of the earth, giving innocent and useful employment to millions. Cotton an evil, a tyranny! What a monstrous error! And how foolish were it to abandon its culture wherever it can still be pursued to profitable results, in good lands and healthy situations. And negro slavery—in which four millions of creatures were rescued from African savagism, and lifted, gradually but certainly, into regions of humanity in which they might gain glimpses of a higher civilization, such as shall correspond with all that is susceptible of progress in their intellect and moral. In the cultivation of cotton, we cultivated the negro, and if he be now fit for freedom, it is because of the training of the hundred years of his bondage in these Southern States. The innocent cotton, the poor negro, as a slave, were not our tyrants! We were our own tyrants! You might rather charge, as our evil genius, the great God himself who gave us fertile lands, a genial sky, a

mild climate, great forests, and every variety of soil and surface. We did not deserve these blessings. In making our toils light, and affording us great capital at the outset, God certainly conferred upon us no special privilege to be lazy, to keep ourselves ignorant, and to exult in peacock vanities in which we did not see how loathsome was our laziness, and how leprous was our ignorance. These have been our tyrannies. Ignorance, idleness and that self-blinding vanity, which never let the possessor behold himself in the mirroring eyes of other and wiser men. You may say that the possession of wealth, cotton, slaves, or what you will, is too apt to corrupt the morals of men, make them enervate, indolent, sensorious and arrogant. And so it will be always, in all parts of the world, with numerous classes; but the evil lies not in the wealth, the gold which is good, or the cotton which is as good as gold, or the hosts of slaves by which it is produced, or by any one of these valued possessions of mankind, which society builds with and builds upon, and through which she turns the bricks of her cities into marble. The tyranny lies in the *non user* of those superior treasures of soul, and mind, and muscle, which constitute the great endowment, the natural capital of the individual man. In proportion as we neglect the use of our own individual powers, we substitute, in their stead, the arch tyrannies of evil, which stand ever ready to enter into those chambers of the brain and heart, where the inmates drowse and sleep over their possessions. The tenure by which we held our slaves, was based upon the intellectual and moral superiority of the white race. If, in process of time, we trained the negro to a superior status; and if, during the same period, by the *non user* of our faculties, our failure to work ourselves, each in his vocation; the rejection of books and education; by our idleness, and that self-blinding vanity, that individual self-sufficiency, which never permits the possessor to behold himself in the mirroring eyes of other and better and wiser men;—if, by these faults and foibles, vanities and vices, we have lost the hold on our possessions; let us not be guilty of the further offence of charging the evil upon the innocent agencies by which God has thought to confer a blessing, which our wilfulness alone has converted into a curse. But we must resume this subject on another day. There is much that may and should be said in this connection, illustrative of what our true tyrannies have been, and to relieve the innocent from unjust imputations of evil and offence. We think it can be shown that cotton was a rightful king, but that he had a most wretched premier, and too frequently, a rascally cabinet. He is still a sovereign, though somewhat shorn of his power.

KING'S MOUNTAIN RAILROAD.—John R. Erwin has been elected President of this railroad, in place of W. A. Latta, deceased. E. M. Law, George Steele, E. A. Crenshaw, J. S. Bratton, J. H. Adams, Wm. Johnston, F. D. Fanning and S. R. Moore, were elected directors at the same time.

YORKVILLE ENQUIRER.—We are glad to see that the publication of the *Yorkville Enquirer* has been resumed. It was, in old times, an excellent paper, and we presume will reassert its former characteristics. It is a large and well printed sheet.

GEN. COX ON THE NEGRO PROBLEM. Gen. Cox, of Ohio, proposes a settlement of the negro status question, of which Northern journals express their approbation. Believing that, for the good of both parties, some separation should be made between the white and black races, he suggests that, without interfering with the existing organization of any State, portions of the country, perhaps of each State, be devoted to negro colonies. He thinks that the blacks, being thus gathered to particular localities, the degree of civilization of which they are capable may be readily attained through the patronage of the Government and the assistance of the whites, all motive for intonist being removed. The difficulty of selecting and securing the localities is not solved.

The most popular paraphrase of the seventh verse of the fourth chapter of Proverbs, is: "Money is the principal thing—therefore, get money; and with all thy getting, get the biggest percent. you can."

Hon. Lewis T. Wigfall has reached his home in Marshall, Texas. So says the *Houston News*. He went in disguise.

MR. EDITOR: Believing that you and some of your readers feel an interest in every good work, permit me to state what has recently been done in my field for the great cause of the Bible.

Testaments, to the number of 1,000 volumes, were given to needy and grateful soldiers, who are stationed in the town of Orangeburg, S. C. and its vicinity.

To meet the urgent demand for the holy scriptures, Bible committees were appointed at the following places for immediate service, viz: Charleston, Summerville, Orangeburg, and Providence, Orangeburg District, S. C. The committee in Charleston has a temporary depository, kindly loaned by George W. Williams, Esq., Chairman, at the store of George W. Williams & Co., corner Hayne and Church streets. James A. Williams, Esq., has the depository at the Baptist Church, Orangeburg, S. C. Dr. Robert W. Burnham has the depository in Summerville, S. C. The Rev. J. S. Connor is in charge of the Providence Bible Committee, in the Providence Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Orangeburg District, S. C.

The Santee Baptist Bible Society, Orangeburg District, under the direction of its efficient president, Rev. Thomas W. Mellichamp, was granted one hundred Testaments and a box of Bibles and Testaments will soon be sent to this society for distribution.

Several Sabbath schools, of different denominations, in the town and District of Orangeburg, were supplied with Testaments, amounting in all to three hundred volumes.

Letters were received from prominent Bible friends in Columbia, S. C., and elsewhere, requesting a supply of Bibles and Testaments for sale and for distribution. These applications will be supplied in due time.

Bible societies, Bible committees, Churches, Sabbath and day schools, and individuals, may apply to me for grants of Bibles and Testaments for distribution. For this purpose apply to me at Orangeburg, S. C., and also to Wm. A. Hughes, Esq., depository, Charleston, S. C.

Let every one that loves the Bible pray, and give, and labor, "that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified."

Truly yours, E. A. BOLLES,
General Agent American Bible Society for South Carolina and Georgia.
ORANGEBURG, S. C., Aug. 10, 1865.

The confession of the Swedish clergyman Linbath, who murdered several of his parishioners with the communion wine, is published. It is a curious document. These sentences indicate its character: "When one stands beside an incurably sick and dreadfully pained fellow-creature, one wishes, of all his heart, that he might be released from his heart-rending misery. * * * I therefore, believed that the merciful God would not condemn me if I shortened the sufferings of a miserable fellow-creature. This action is certainly, to outward appearance, against all law, but in reality it rests upon grounds of compassion. My God, before whom I shall finally answer, knows this, and with deep contrition I feel myself worthy of the sore punishment of the civil law for the sinful compassion I exercised towards the dead persons in the case. * * * You have now enough, my crime confessed, my house destroyed, my grave opened. Farewell! farewell, Carlstadt! That day I was ordained your pastor, I was ordained to death. O God! have mercy upon me!"

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—Estimating the national debt at twenty-five hundred millions of dollars, and apportioning it according to the number of white male adults over twenty years of age in the different sections of the country, it has been found that the proportion of the New England States is \$308,689,352; of the Middle States \$740,195,342; of the Western States \$893,288,781; of the Southern States \$461,929,846; and of the Pacific States \$95,896,677. This calculation makes the South responsible for over four hundred and sixty millions of debt.

IMPORTANT TO THE TRAVELING PUBLIC.—The Atlanta *Intelligencer*, of the 13th says: We are advised that on and after to-day the Montgomery and West Point Railroad passenger trains, running in connection with the trains from Atlanta, will arrive at Shorter's Station, twenty-two miles from Montgomery, daily, at 9.30 p. m., and will leave that station, daily, at 2.30 p. m. This arrangement saves six hours in the travel from this point to Montgomery, the staging distance towards the last named city being reduced by it to twenty-two miles.

[Augusta Constitutionalist.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND SERVICES OF CAPT. P. DRAYTON, U. S. N.—On Friday, after an illness of only a few hours, departed this life, Captain Percival Drayton, U. S. N., an officer universally respected and esteemed. He entered the naval service as a midshipman, on the 1st of December, 1851, and was ordered to the frigate *Hudson*. In 1851, he was sent to the Naval School at New York, and after a year of study he was to join the *Mediterranean Squadron*. In 1853, he was promoted to be a lieutenant, and ordered to command the schooner *Enterprise*. In 1854, he joined the sloop-of-war *Yorktown*, and went out to the Pacific. Returning the following year, he was ordered to the naval rendezvous at Charleston. In 1856, he was ordered to the *Columbus* 74, of the East India Squadron. In 1859, he was ordered to the steamer *Mississippi*, of the *Mediterranean Squadron*. Two years after, he was transferred to the *Independence*, and returned to the United States in her, and was detached for ordnance duty at the Brooklyn Yard. On the 14th of September, he was promoted to be a commander. In 1859, he was assigned to duty with the *Paraguay* expedition, as aid to Flag-Officer Shubrick. In 1860, he was on ordnance duty at Philadelphia.

He commanded the *Pocahontas* in the attack upon the forts at Port Royal, S. C., and distinguished himself for his intrepidity and bearing in an engagement where his own blood relatives were his opponents.

On the 16th of July, 1862, he was promoted to a captaincy, and ordered to command the *Pawnee*.

In October, 1862, he was ordered to the command of the monitor *Passaic*, and in her attacked Fort McAllister, and participated in the attack upon Fort Sumter, on the 7th of April, 1863. He returned with the *Passaic* to New York in May, 1863, and was detached from her.

In 1864, Captain Drayton was appointed Fleet Captain to Admiral Farragut, and participated in the glorious victory at Mobile Bay. After his return from the West Gulf Squadron in the *Hartford*, in December, 1864, he was ordered to Washington to duty as Chief of the Bureau of Detail, and when Captain Wise was granted leave of absence, he took charge of the Ordnance Bureau.

Captain Drayton was one of the finest officers in the service, a native of South Carolina, and one of the most devoted patriots, who never for a moment questioned his duty when the rebellion first began to make itself known. He was beloved by all who knew him. He was of a tall, commanding figure, his features expressing much determination and mental strength. Possessed of many social virtues, he was a general favorite. He was brave, kind and attentive to those under him, and his loss will be deeply felt by the Navy Department and all who knew him.

TROUBLE IN PRUSSIA.—It appears that trouble is looming up in Prussia, owing to the suppression by the Government of certain public meetings near Cologne, in favor of reform. In more than one case, the military have appeared on the ground and dispersed the people at the point of the bayonet. Sympathizing with the latter, the Liberals of the free city of Bremen had appointed a committee for the purpose of inviting the Liberal Prussian deputies to a banquet in that city. All the arrangements for that festival had been made, and we look forward with some interest to the result. "Suppressing banquets" are perilous experiments for crowned heads to make. Louis Philippe tried it once, and it cost him his throne. Is the King of Prussia a Bourbon, too, that he should thus learn nothing? [New York Express.

A SHORT ROMANCE.—About a year ago James Sullivan courted a girl in South Troy, but was "cut out" by William Crawford, a returned volunteer, who married the "apple of discord." Subsequently, tempted by the large bounty, Crawford again volunteered. Months passed, and Mrs. C. growing lonesome, and Sullivan being quite watchful and attentive, the old lover and the new wife became more intimate than ever; and when Crawford returned home the other night, minus an arm, he found that he had lost his rib too. He broke the bed on which the two were lying, beat Sullivan unmercifully, and bade a lasting farewell to his faithless spouse. Alas, how many such cases has the war developed!

The Boston *Post* says: The essentials of a watering-place alternately summed up are thus: sea, salt, sun, sand, ships, shells, sailors, swimming; to which may be added a thundering big bill and scandal enough to last for nine months.

Local Items.

To insure insertion, advertisers are requested to hand in their notices before 4 o'clock p. m.

This evening, August 22, the first of a series of entertainments by T. T. Stawinski will take place at the old College Chapel. All who have had the pleasure of attending Stawinski's Solos heretofore will hail this opportunity with pleasure, and we feel confident he will have a large attendance.

DAVIDSON COLLEGE.—This institution, under good management, has been kept in successful operation during the whole war; not having suspended its exercises for a single day during the regular session. The President, Professors and Trustees, deserve infinite credit for the performance. It will be seen, by the advertisement in this day's *Phoenix*, that the institution still continues in operation. Davidson College ranks well among similar institutions in our Southern States, and parents will do well to consider, whether in the suspension of our own college exercises, those of our Northern sister may not be desirable for our sons.

BURGLARY.—More burglary abroad. Virtue triumphant. The schools, churches and colleges, are having their full effect. Mr. Troy's store was broken into on Saturday night, and his goods and chattels were freely conveyed away by the most dextrous robbers in the world. No man's home is sacred, where he is presumptuous enough to have more than twenty thousand dollars. Mr. Troy must know, by this time, that there is an awful interval between Saturday night and Monday morning, in which sleepers have no right either for sleep or rest. Rogues never rest on the Sabbath—a curious fact—knowing how unworthy they are to obey the law.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published for the first time this morning:

Gen. Gilmore—General Orders No. 15.
J. G. Gibbs—New Goods.
—New Flour.
Townsend & North—Blank Books.
Richard Caldwell—Groceries, Shoes, &c.
Orangeburg and Columbia Stage Line.
"S."—Young Man Wanted.
M. M. Cohen—Goods for Ladies.
—Cheap Light.
College Chapel—Solos by Stawinski.
J. L. Kirkpatrick—Davidson College.
J. H. Wells—For Sale or Rent.
J. C. Clarke—New Goods.
G. M. Collins—Dry Goods and Groceries.
Jacob Bell—Citation.

FROM MEXICO.—Late intelligence of interest from Mexico is contained in despatches by the steamship *Manhattan* from Vera Cruz, on the 28th ult., and Sisal, of the 30th ult., and Havana on the 31st inst. In the city of Mexico, the imperialists were congratulating themselves on the fancied bright prospects of the Empire, and their expectations of its early recognition by the United States, for the purpose of securing which latter desideratum, it was reported that General Almonte was preparing for a trip to Washington; but correspondents describe the present condition of the country as anything but flattering to the new Government. The Republican armies are still large and efficient, and hold undisputed possession of a great portion of the territory of the country, while the guerrilla bands roam through nearly every section, still giving infinite annoyance to the Imperial troops, and the friends of Juarez are said to be gaining ground everywhere. Ex-United States Senator Gwin had left the capital and gone to Matamoros, after having had his plans for colonizing the Northern Mexican States completely squelched by Maximilian. Vera Cruz correspondents give accounts of most atrocious vandalism and outrages committed by orders of the Imperial army officers.

OUTRAGES.—The following outrages occurred in Augusta, Monday night:

George Deas, of this county, was knocked down and brutally beaten over the head, in the vicinity of the factory, from the effect of which he died yesterday. The deceased was a cripple, having lost a leg from a railroad accident during the war.

Wm. Phillips was knocked down, and severely beaten and rescued by a few colored men who happened in the neighborhood, before the assailants, who were white men, could rifle his pockets.

A party going home in a buggy was accosted on Green street by three white men, who attempted to pull him out of the vehicle, but he fortunately succeeded in making good his escape after a short struggle, in which he gave at least one of the party a few hard knocks on the head.

Another citizen was attacked by three white men on Kollock street, between Ellis and Broad street, by rot being of a pugilistic disposition, and being fortunately swift of foot, he succeeded in retreating in good order.

[Augusta Constitutionalist.

From seven to eight hundred thousand men have been discharged from the United States Army, which, on the first of May, numbered one million and fifty thousand enrolled men.